

Members, we hope that you and your loved ones are safe, healthy and continuing to learn. During these challenging times, your vital support enables the California Science Center to continue inspiring science learning in everyone as a trusted educational resource - THANK YOU!

Let us know your thoughts about our first weekly distribution of *The Nucleus* at member@californiasciencecenter.org. If you missed it, the feature article along with prior issues will be available on our Member News & Events page.

Though the temporary closure of the California Science Center in mid-March in response to the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in the loss of nearly all sources of earned income (revenue that would come from special exhibition and IMAX movie ticket sales, gift shop and concession purchases, facility rentals and education program fees) our commitment to science learning for everyone remains strong!

We are pleased to provide special insights to our Members on new approaches to engaging the community in science learning.

MEET DEVIN!



Devin Waller is Exhibit Project Manager at the California Science Center, where she works with a team of creative people to develop dynamic <u>Air & Space</u> exhibits, including for the future <u>Samuel Oschin Air and Space Center</u>, the permanent home of <u>Space Shuttle Endeavour</u>. You may have seen her in the Stuck at Home Science video <u>Balloon Rockets</u> explaining how Endeavour launched into space.

Before she worked at the California Science Center, Devin studied astrophysics and planetary geology. She grew up with a fascination for Mars and was thrilled to have the opportunity to work with data gathered by the Mars Exploration Rovers. On Mars, massive dust storms make landing spacecraft and gathering energy using solar panels challenging. Devin and her colleagues discovered patterns in the weather conditions that were used to help plan the rover Curiosity's safe entry, decent and landing at Gale crater on Mars.

Devin started working at the California Science Center in 2012, the year Endeavour arrived. She loves the informal learning that takes place at science centers and wanted to design exhibits that would teach the public about the exciting research being done by her fellow scientists. Her favorite thing about the California Science Center is the way we live our core values of inclusion and accessibility every day.

"Our programming is so varied and serves so many different groups – families, classes, home school groups. The guest experience is the primary focus when we develop our exhibits and programs."

She notes that the support we receive through donations and the Membership program is so critical because it allows us to remain general admission free and gives us the flexibility to develop amazing exhibits and educational programs.

"I love the fact that we are able to reach such a large audience, including people in

our local community. When you talk to our guests, so many of them grew up with the Science Center."

Devin has many heroes who are scientists and thinks it is really important to have people in your field who inspire you. One inspiration for her is <u>Dr. Mae Jemison</u>, former NASA mission specialist and the first African American woman in space, flying aboard Space Shuttle Endeavour. Dr. Jemison achieved amazing things – like becoming a physician, who practiced in Los Angeles, and serving in the Peace Corps – even before she became an astronaut.

Devin told us that the most important thing for anyone getting into science is to be curious, to ask why something happens the way it does and to let yourself really wonder about the reasons. Those innate skills – a strong sense of curiosity and a drive to solve problems – will give you the motivation needed to reach your goals in science and in most other fields.

When she's not at the California Science Center, Devin loves to hike and rock climb – hobbies she picked up while studying geology out in the deserts of Arizona. These earthly adventures are a nice balance to her work developing exhibits about flight and space exploration.

Stuck at Home Science

In the next issue of *The Nucleus* we will meet Director of Husbandry Misha Body, who leads a dedicated Living Collections team that provides care and life support, 24/7, for our plants and animals.



STUCK AT HOME SCIENCE



Stuck at Home Science, developed in a collaboration of the California Science Center's content experts, educators and professional development team, is an online series of hands-on and age-appropriate science activities using supplies you can find at home. Activities feature videos and downloadable lessons that support the Next Generation Science Standards Science and Engineering Practices.

"The Science Center's mission is to make science learning accessible for everyone and we are meeting it while we are closed to the public. Stuck at Home Science activities provide a fun and educational way to help parents and students continue science learning even when they can't physically come to the Science Center." – Jeffrey Rudolph, California

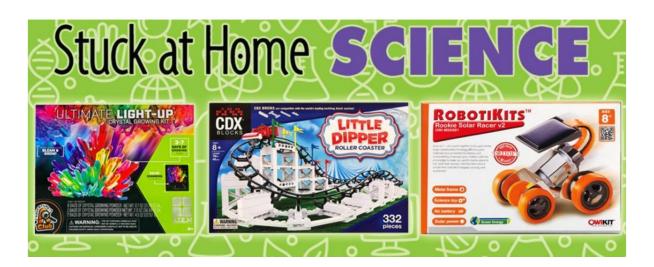
Science Center President and CEO

Each week covers a themed content goal – such as rocketry, food science or engineering. This week's theme, Build It! lets you get creative in the Engineering Design Process as you build your own traps, cars, toys and more to share with family and friends. New activities are released every weekday at 10:00 a.m. PST. Bookmark the Stuck at Home Science page for FREE unlimited access to exciting videos and activity guides that are easy to understand and available in both English and Spanish.

Having fun learning with Stuck at Home Science? Send photos of you and your family doing the activities to member@californiasciencecenter.org for an opportunity to be featured in an upcoming issue of *The Nucleus* and on our Member News & Events page.

Stuck at Home Science

SPECIAL EXPLORASTORE DISCOUNT FOR MEMBERS



Make science learning at home FUN with our cool <u>Stuck at Home Science activity kits!</u> Members receive 10% off all web orders throughout the month of April, as well as free shipping on all orders \$25 and over. Use promo code: **MemberApr20** at checkout.

Shop Now

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT SCIENCE LEARNING FOR EVERYONE



During these challenging and uncertain times, your support as a Member is critical to our ability to continue serving our community with free online science learning opportunities. Please renew your Membership today in support of our mission to inspire science learning in everyone.

Renew



If your Membership is not due for renewal and you are in a position to make an additional gift, of any amount, we invite your contribution. Your generous support will help sustain California Science Center as a trusted educational resource while we are temporarily closed to the public. Thank you.

Donate

For more information on the California Science Center, visit our website at www.californiasciencecenter.org or call (323) SCIENCE (724-3623). For Membership questions, please contact the Membership Office at member@californiasciencecenter.org or call (213) 744-7504.

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